

10/063979
Amdt. Dated Feb. 11, 2004
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 15, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 3 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention due to the term "nitrogen-carbon-oxygen content." Claims 3 and 5 have been amended to "nitrogen-carbon-oxygen group content" to overcome this rejection.

Claims 1-5 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent 6486261 to Wu. Claims 1-5 and 8 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0171166 to Cavallaro. Both references fail to disclose the specific curative blend of the amended claims of the Present Application. As set forth in the declaration Pijush Dewanjee, the use of the curative blend of the Present Application demonstrates results that are unexpected from the use of a 4,4'-methylenebis-(2,6-diethyl)-aniline by itself.

It is believed that the remaining claims are now allowable. The Applicants therefore respectfully solicit a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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